

Operator Identification Numbers

Frequently Asked Questions

Introduction

The Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) recently amended Title 3, California Code of Regulations (3CCR) section 6622 to allow the issuance of Operator Identification Numbers (OINs) for up to three years, at the discretion of the County Agricultural Commissioner (CAC). During the rulemaking process, DPR received several comments and inquiries about OINs.

What is the purpose of an OIN?

An OIN is an “identification” number issued to growers and entered on their pesticide-use report. This number is issued specifically for management of pesticide use data to identify a unique entity and to determine and calculate the actual percentage of crops treated. OINs are often referred to as a “Grower ID.” If the property owner or operator has been issued a restricted materials permit, the number on the permit may substitute for the OIN.

When do you need an OIN?

OINs are needed for:

- Purchase and use of pesticides for production of an agricultural commodity.
 - Purchase and use of Restricted Materials, as defined in 3CCR section 6400.
 - Industrial use post-harvest commodity treatment/fumigation.
 - Use of pesticides listed in 3CCR section 6800, Ground Water Protection.
 - Use of pesticides on cemeteries, golf courses, and rights-of-way.
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Why can't OINs be refused or revoked?

3CCR section 6622 states the operator of the property to be treated shall be issued an OIN from the CAC of each county in which the operator intends to perform pest control. The law allows anyone producing agricultural commodities to apply for and receive an OIN. However, there are no provisions in the law to revoke, deny, or suspend an OIN. For example, much like a social security number is necessary to secure employment and report wages and earnings, an OIN is strictly an identification number. The number is necessary to purchase pesticides and report pesticide use. Without an OIN, the grower cannot perform pesticide work, the grower's use data could not be tracked, and the grower could not purchase agricultural or restricted-use pesticides.

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Frequently Asked Questions, Continued

Who is exempt?	Persons operating as a pest control business with a valid pest control business license.
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